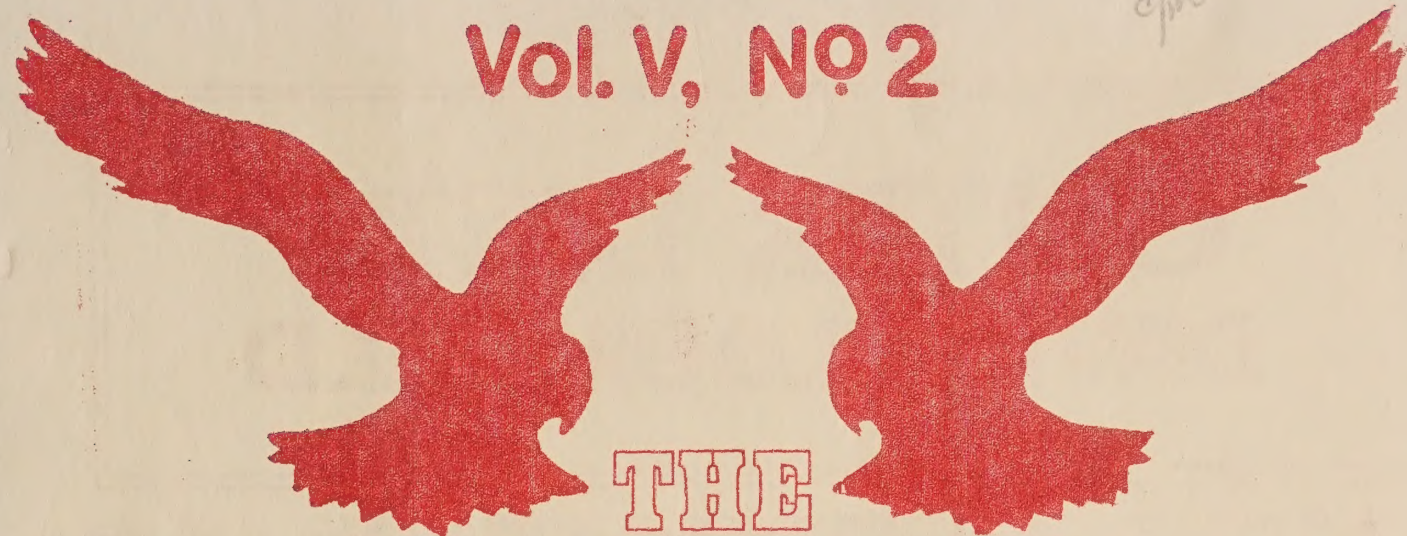


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THE COMMUNICATOR SPRINGHILL PENITENTIARY

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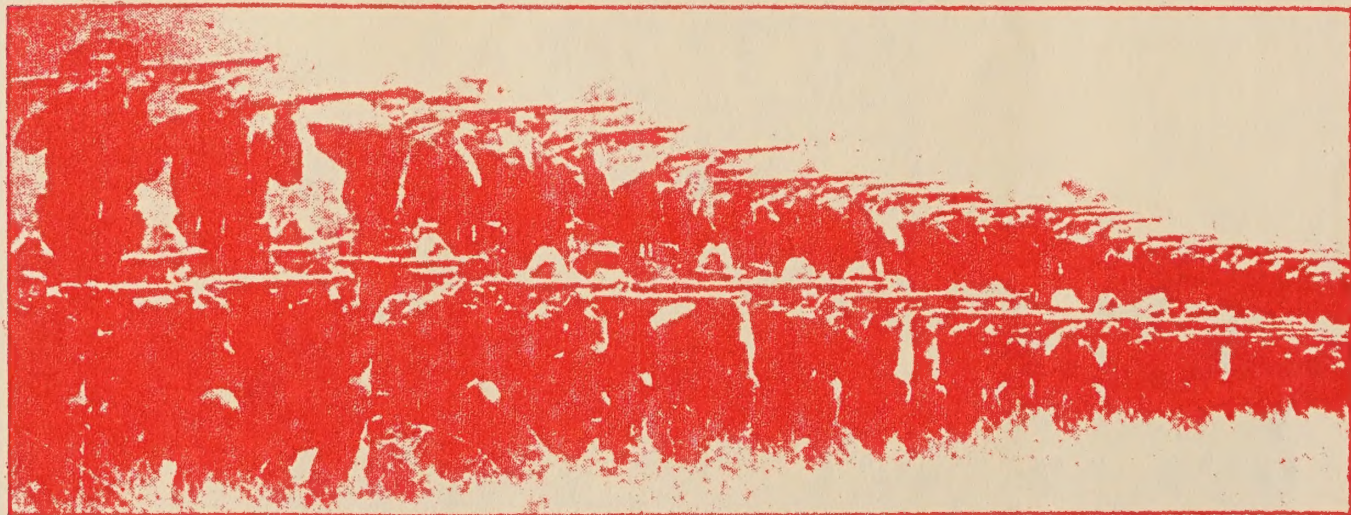
Harvey Dinnerstein

OBITER DICTA

DAVID BLOOMFIELD

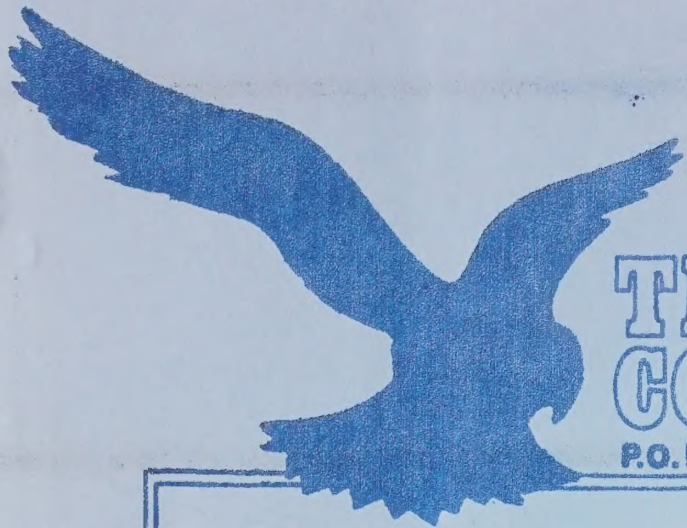
WE THINK YOU'LL FIND THIS ISSUE ENGAGING AND INFORMATIVE; WELL, AT ANY RATE we hope so 'cause it sure did take a whole lot of time and energy getting it off the press. In case you're wondering what the hell took so long, I've finally come to the conclusion that we've been running a four-man operation with only two bodies on the premises and contrary to popular myth, John and I are after all, only human. No matter what approach we take or technique we use we've discovered we can't do two things at the same time. In our concern to get the paper out sooner than later we tried a little experiment to speed up the works: preparing the layout for copy while sitting at the Gestetner running off the completed copy. Needless to say, it didn't turn out as anticipated; to say the least the quality control left something to be desired. And I found out that pasting up the copy by foot was a sticky procedure indeed, not to mention the problems incurred dentalwise in attempting to crank the ol' mimeograph by toothpower.

So much for excuses I guess. Anyway, we've hired on a new man to lend us a hand, Bill Spears of Halifax/Dartmouth way; unfortunately, we haven't seen much of Bill these days as he's been drafted by the General Labor Pool, which have been busying themselves in the free community as voluntary laborers. Poor boy, just when we were about to reveal to him the mystery and pleasures of collatting thirteen-thousand sheets of Gestetner's finest. Can't win 'em all Bill! Which brings me to the fact that we're still looking for another individual of the multi-talented variety, to fill in the ever-widening gaps in our operation. Oh, where are you my man? Step forward and present yourself, you're needed at last! Actually, in truth, we have had a few good men offer their timely services, only to take a hasty retreat upon realizing that perhaps the 'heat' at The COMMUNICATOR (and I'm not referring to the temperature for those outside readers who man be led astray by the jargon) was just a little too hot for their liking. After all, they were only looking for a



place in the sun, not on the sun. Yes folks, The COMMUNICATOR is an Institution Hot Spot, and if anyone has noticed Ettinger's Miami tan, you can rest assured he picked it up inside the shop and not laying out in the sun all day long as you suspect. Complaints, complaints! Well, we wouldn't want it any other way (well almost, perhaps they can lower the heat a bit, say to normally hot instead of boiling) because it's some sort of indication we aren't spouting the party line, at any rate, their party line. Not that we're satisfied with the offerings found within these pages, it's soft sell all the way, but we are trying to impart a little wisdom from the other side of the fence, and hopefully influence, en a positive way, the thoughts of some good people out there.

Well, I don't know what else to tell you at this point 'cause I know I'm running out of space and almost of my mind. But . . . enjoy! And take care until next time; whenever that will be, only your hairdresser knows for sure.



"... until Society is reformed, no man can reform himself except in the most insignificantly small ways."

George Bernard Shaw

THE COMMUNICATOR

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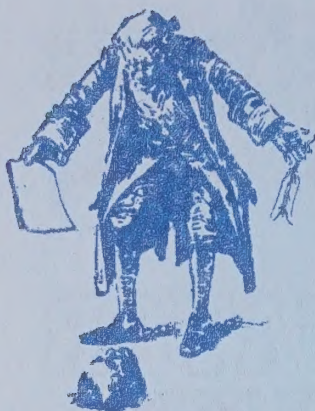
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LETTERS

Editor's Note: The COMMUNICATOR received the following 'open letter' to the population and other concerned parties.

To Whom It May Concern:

WHAT WILL COME NEXT? We are in a period, in this country that makes it difficult to imagine what will come next. Some major topics of debate today concern: Capital Punishment; Paroles; Temporary Absences; Crime and Crime Prevention; and Corrections. The Federal Government is spending money like it is going out of style, on these very subjects; but it will be a long long time before they make any head-way, because they don't know where they are going themselves.

They are attempting to train people in the management of other people, which is an almost impossible task. Particularly when they are trying to train them exclusively from books, rather than from books in conjunction with practical EXPERIENCE. Why over 80% of the people they are attempting to train don't know anything about people at all. They just weren't born with this ability and most of them don't give a damn -- so long as they get their pay cheques for turning keys.

They (whomever They actually are) talk about communication between inmates and the people of the CPS and NPS, as well as the other people of the system. But then they turn around and print in staff publications about one of their upper-echelon staff members coming in to chat with the staff concerning problem solving. They will go right from a shop instructor, to Assistant-Director or Director, to EVEN INMATES. Did you get that, yes, even inmates, (those filthy germ-infested creatures), they'll even talk to them, or more accurately at them. Although, they won't really listen to what the prisoners are saying; but didn't they say they wanted communication? Apparently, we are still below their level -- so we are referred to as 'EVEN INMATES'. Strange system of communication, wouldn't you say, or is that where this country is really at?

Then they are worried about something as trivial as, we inmates don't like their old uniforms, so they have decided to brighten up the prisons, as they call it; by spending another big bunch of money for stylish uniforms. They seem to prefer the battle-dress over any other though. Strange, wouldn't you think, for a person working for and supposedly thinking Corrections, wanting to wear battle-dress?

They actually want to see a system where there is Capital Punishment! This in itself is a very debateable subject from numerous different aspects. But, they only want it for police officers and prison guards (the 'elite' of Canadian society, I would suppose). The young and innocent children of this country, who can't defend themselves, who don't have arsenals and riot equipment at their disposal -- what about them?

They want procedures set up with no paroles, no temporary absences, just cage them up. Then, when they must release us, according to some law or rule, as they are supposedly called (at the very back of the book likely). They know darn-well some will return, because most have not been assisted in equipping themselves to survive adequately in the system outside. But, by locking people up, with no paroles or temporary absences, they can assure that during a prisoners term of premeditated mental-torture he will become bitter enough to make his return a certainty. This is their way of guaranteeing that they will always have employment in one of Canada's largest industries -- CPS, Ltd. But then, the country would really be in a greater unemployment mess, if the bottom fell out of this industry, wouldn't it?

With them running the system in a cycle like this to insure that the industry in here and the other industries continue, what answer could there be? Well, they could start to execute people for any violation more serious than a parking ticket. But then this would terminate the industry, and after a while the police would become unhappy. As

this would only leave the government, police officers, CPS, NPS and a few other 'elite' people . . . and nobody left to execute. In all probability most people will think this is far-fetched. But they have already proposed laws, which are going to prohibit personal hunting and sporting weapons. Of course some people will be allowed to have them for awhile, and gradually they will whittle the list down to their chosen elite. The Canadian people seem to be a very naive group, to swallow this and just sit back while our country gradually becomes a POLICE STATE. Why even the leader of our country is constantly over in Russia and Red China, as well as Cuba. While other leaders and business corporations are selling us out to the States. Why even at this present time our Canadian Bill of Rights isn't worth the paper that it is written on, so what is it going to be in another ten or twenty years?

But if we leave it the way it is going then we will all have some kind of a percentage to work with, even though it won't be a fair all around percentage. However, this will keep the industry going and allow the government and any other person who has the money and political influence to get away with anything -- including MURDER. But of course they don't call it that, so they, and then the price must be right. Some people will surely say this isn't happening, but it definitely is, just consider the assassination of John F. Kennedy in the States. Anybody who doesn't believe that it really happened that way are more than naive -- they are completely blind.

So, I guess it is hard to say just what will come next. But one thing is for sure; until Money, Power and Greed, no longer run this country or world, conditions will never really change. The system, the cycle and the industry will prevail.

A builder cannot learn to build properly from learning the trade from books. He must be born with this ability and then refine it. He must also learn to BUILD THY SELF FIRST!

A doctor cannot learn to heal sickness completely from learning the profession from books. He must be born with this ability and then refine it. He must also learn, Physician HEAL THY SELF FIRST!

People who are MP's, MIA's, police officers, CPS, NPS, judges, social workers, lawyers, big business corporations and yes even parents, cannot work with or understand people by only learning from books; they must be born with the ability and then refine it. They must also learn to UNDERSTAND AND CORRECT THY SELF FIRST!

Blair K. DeBaie

Dear Editor:

I just want to say a few words about the far-out medical treatment here at the Springhill (au go-go) prison. You guys reading this remember that flu spree that was going around here the end of April. Well, I staggered into the Doctor's office with the usual headache, pains, dizziness and the occasional spot before my eyes. Over there they sock you with a couple of candy-coated cold tablets and tell you to be on your way. (Man, I could hardly fuckin' walk by this time.) Anyway, at work I finally had to tell the Man I was just too fuckin' sick to work, so I returned to the unit. When I got to the unit, Shultz tells me it's not zoo policy for a potentially sick inmate to remain in the unit and spread the little germs all over the fuckin' place. So there you stand -- half fuckin' dead with fever, the hospital already full-up, and you've got to go back to work because it's POLICY (BULLSHIT). I think the medical treatment here ain't worth a pinch of doodly squat -- not to mention the insanity of the Living Unit staff.

Thank you,

Bugged

Dear Editor:

Nick di Spoldo, in his article "A Prison Diarist's Coming of Age" (Sept-Oct. '75) refers to the works of Jackson and Cleaver (Soledad Brother and Soul on Ice) in the following context, "... revolutionary rhetoric of the so-called political prisoner. The result has been a contemporary prison literature that is hypercritical and irresponsibly iconoclastic."

Firstly, he does not appear to realize that what both were addressing themselves to was precisely the political nature of crime and punishment. It is fairly well understood that crimes, although possibly morally improper, are left to the discretion of the individual until the state takes the matter into its own hands; the executioner reading the obituary over the festering corpse of another freedom sold down the river, supposedly for the greater good.

Secondly, he dismisses the writings of other prisoners as irresponsibly iconoclastic, dealing with the, "... melodramatic and superficial externals of the prison community: - riots, escapes sexual assaults, bad living conditions. . . ." It could be that I missed the point of his article, deep and profound as it is. After the put-down of prison authors, one expects to be led into a

garden of intellectual and spiritual delights, but alas, it was only the proverbial garden path, a veritable swamp of self-indulgence and self-pity.

Maybe di Spoldo resides at one of those "country club prisons" we keep hearing about, conveniently free of social injustice, caught up in his companionship with Dostoevski, Wilde, Hitler, Genet, Stroud, Chessman, de Sade, Twain, Thoreau, Maugham, Hamlet and Sydney. Poor little Nick di Spoldo, fighting dragons all his teeny life, what with a self-destructive nature and a drug addict mother -- a psychologists nightmare wetdream come true.

Such a waste of ink, paper and effort in these depressed times I hope not to witness again, but knowing it is beyond hope, this drivel, fluid of thought though it is, will be reproduced for consumption by the unwitting public. Respectfully, Mr. di Spoldo, I'd like to point out that while a diary of your soullessness may be psychologically helpful and may give you a sense of worth, please spare us, specifically me, further embarrassment by representing yourself as someone worth listening to, reading of, or thinking about. Just keep it under your skimmer.

Greg Scott

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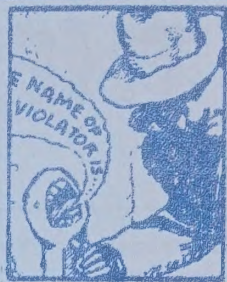
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COMMENTARY: DRUNK & DISORDERLY

JOHN ETTINGER



Over the past several months I've been hearing and reading in the news media of proposed changes in the Criminal Code. These changes have been neatly packaged and readied for public consumption under the handy tag -- "Peace and Security." Just what exactly is this "Peace and Security?" The party in power (no doubt with the aid of experts to legitimize their assertions) would like us to believe that there has been such an outrageous increase in crime (especially crime of a violent nature) that stringent repressive measures are necessary to quash the upsurge of lawlessness. I maintain differently. There will always be a certain level of crime per/capita and the level in Canada (except for certain urban pockets) is no worse than any of the other major Western countries. There is no cause for alarm on this particular issue. So why is the government making such an "issue" out of the alledged increase in crime?

As anyone who is a consumer knows (and that's just about everyone) we are in the midst of an extended, what the economists call: Recession. A potential economic crisis may be imminent. Energy and food shortages of untold magnitude are predicted by the UN -- shortages of such magnitude that even bountiful North America will not be spared. So, what all this means is: Hard Times are upon us and conditions may become even worse. You know this, I know this, and the power-mongers are well aware of it. The years of waste and exploitation have finally caught up with us. When times get a little too tough people become irritable, they complain, they are difficult to manage, they resent the waste by government when they have to scrimp-and-save, and most of all they want to know WHY? The government is also well aware of the "Psychology of Hard Times" and is tactically prepared to

make counter-measures to deal with a potentially troublesome populace.

Crime, or more accurately crime statistics can be and often are conveniently manipulated. When Hard Times are upon the land actual reported crime does increase. The poor and the working and just-making-ends-meet segments of the population are for the most part the victims and perpetrators of crime; the very same people who are most affected by the current economic troubles and the resulting governmental sanctions. A shopkeeper who is having difficulty, staying in the black is more likely to press charges against a shoplifter than the merchant who is doing well. When the economy is booming the powers that be are more likely to take a "let things go" attitude. One really can't fault the hypothetical shopkeeper for charging the thief -- no doubt the man resents someone stealing from him when he's having such a difficult time himself.

The strictly punitive approach towards crime of "Peace and Security" will only serve to perpetuate the incidence of crime. What will result is the familiar "Crime → Incarceration → Bitterness → Crime Syndrome." The "lock 'em up 'n' throw away the key" style has never worked; there's no reason why it should work now, refitted in this season's fashions.

One of the oldest (yet tried and true) tactics of parties in power who face being held responsible for economic disaster and its ensuing problems is to create a diversionary "problem" or "question;" inundate the populace with propaganda and thus create a smoke-screen around the real problem. This is what "Peace and Security" is -- and the implications are alarming.

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THE PRISON CHALLENGE

DAVID ROTHENBERG

(Reprinted from the "Fortune News," newsletter of The Fortune Society, an ex-offender self-help and prison reform organization based in New York City.)

I am a civilian who has worked with ex-convicts for the last eight years. As the Director of The Fortune Society since its inception, I have been in contact with thousands of prisoners and former prisoners. Each week we receive hundreds of letters from prisoners filled with ideas and plans for prison reform as well as suggested legislation for change within the criminal justice system. Many of the ideas are valid, creative and deserving of a hearing.

There is an understandable impatience in many of the letters. The writers express irritation with the pace at which the outside world responds to the folly of our criminal justice system. While convicts write to The Fortune Society seeking support for advanced sentencing and parole reforms, the real fight today consists in trying to defend what has already been achieved. The fact is that the present political climate is not congenial to the kind of legislation which is advocated by The Fortune Society.

It is possible that inmates gain the impression that massive public support is theirs by reading the publications that are supportive of prisoner rights. The truth is that most people in society are struggling for their own survival. The political pendulum in this period is swinging away from prisoners' rights. Advocates of repressive law-and-order legislation are now in vogue.

Political reality cannot be ignored by those inside or outside prison who are struggling to effect meaningful change in the system. The reasons for the current shift in the political wind are varied and complex. The gravest economic recession since the Great Depression has thrown millions of workers out of their jobs and threatened millions of others with the grim prospect of being laid off. The unemployment rate remains at an intolerable level for a modern industrial democracy. Those most severely effected by what some economists euphemistically refer to as "The Slow Down" are those who only began to make some economic headway during the last decade; once again they become the

victims of our mindless economic "arrangements."

I am not suggesting that the convict population halt its pursuit for substantive change in the decadent prison system. But if inmates expect to have an impact in creating change it is imperative that they be in closer touch with the real political situation. Within the oppressive framework of the prison setting the explosion of political rhetoric is understandable. These cries of protest reverberate with the frustration of the encaged, but it is doubtful whether rhetoric alone will be effective in creating meaningful change.

It would seem that part of the real political efforts within the walls -- beyond the sloganeering -- would be the fight to prepare people to function when they hit the streets. Perhaps the most depressing aspect of the movement is the realization of how few ex-convicts provide input on behalf of prison change. The ex-convict has much greater lassitude than his incarcerated brothers and sisters. And yet we find that the voice of the former inmate has been muted. The angry sounds of the prisoner become the deep silences of the ex-convict.

Institutionalized people have a great difficulty in adjusting to the streets. Released prisoners are thrown into a fast moving world in which they must re-learn survival and decision-making. Employment is scarce, housing is difficult and friendships are few.

Some of the most articulate authors of prison letters are silent once they are released. Their energy and talents are exhausted in the process of trying to survive each day. A few break through and make it out here . . . and then they spend a great deal of time trying to forget the prison experience. It is buried and they censor their own past lives.

* * * * *

Repressive politics create oppressive, overcrowded prisons. The struggle against this must proceed on both political and pragmatic lines. Convicts and ex-convicts can play a vital role in calling the attention of the public to the changes which need to be made. But it is essential that advocates of sweeping reform in our system not ignore the fears of a concerned public.

In the struggle against the irrationality of our present prison system there are two fronts where movement is possible. The first is a significant reduction in our prison population. This does not mean that we need more facilities with fewer persons in each one. We need no new buildings. We need fewer people in the buildings now housing convicts. The second front consists in the effort of persuading the public that people guilty of non-violent crimes can be maintained within the community.

The violent sub-culture of prison clearly creates violence and therefore creates a greater threat to the community. It is financially more sound to have fewer people in prison and it is possible that such arrangements (by neutralizing violence in society rather than abetting it) would lead to a reduction in crime.

The political argument must always focus on lessening the possibility of crime and creating the possibilities for educational and vocational development. We must resist the advice of law-and-order advocates who insist that our tax

dollars be spent on "the administration of justice" -- creating a bureaucracy which grows larger and larger without increasing our collective security.

When a frightened citizen talks of fear in the streets, it is absurd for an ex-convict to ignore that fear and talk only of the victimization of the prisoner. We must recognize the real fears of the concerned citizen and demonstrate the close connection between the failure of the prison system and the increased victimization of all as a result of that failure.

The rhetoric of the prisoner must be used for internal fortification but not as a public rallying cry. But the silence of the majority of the public does not necessarily mean antagonism to the prisoners struggle. The 'silent' are often simply too occupied with their own struggle for survival. Their support is possible, but their fears and struggles must be respected.

The challenge is there. Who dares to respond?

* * * * *

"... it is not our disorder but our order that is horrible; that it is not our criminals but our magnates that are robbing and murdering us"

GEORGE BERNARD SHAW

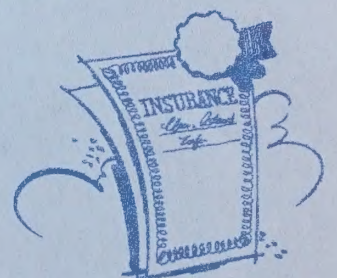
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PREFACE BY D. BLOOMFIELD

WITH ALL THE CONTROVERSY OVER THE STRINGENT 'PEACE & SECURITY' LEGISLATION pending in Parliament, The COMMUNICATOR has decided to take a look at what's happening at the other end of the criminal justice system, that is, the question of criminal diversion. For those wondering, "Just what is this diversion?", the following excerpts from a draft entitled, "Formal Criminal Justice Diversion," by E.K. Glinfort, Co-ordinator, Federal-Provincial Deputy Ministers Sub Committee on Diversion, may prove helpful.

"During the late 1960's the concept of pre-trial intervention developed in the United States out of such programs as the Manhattan Court Employment Project sponsored by the Vera Institute of Justice in New York City, and the Project Crossroads in Washington, D.C., sponsored by the National Council on Children and Youth."

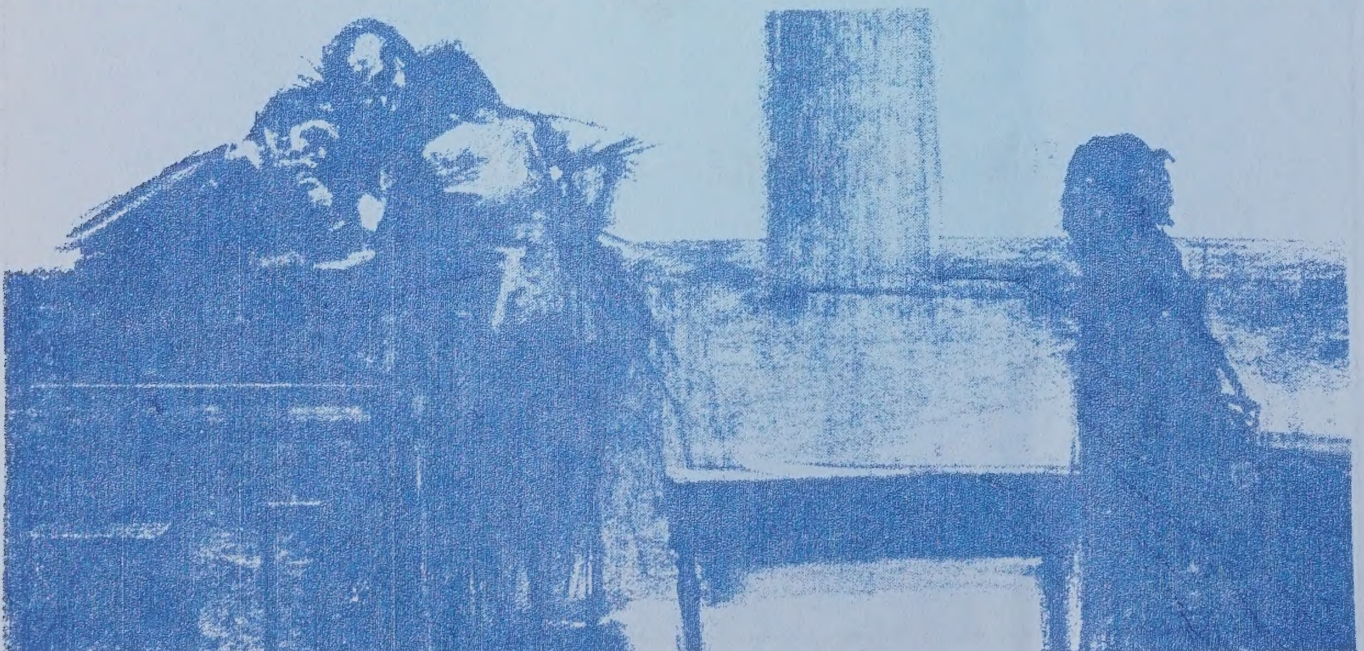
"Initially, diversion was seen as a dismissal of charges following successful pre-trial intervention, but eventually was equated with any conditional pre-trial release. During the last few years the concept has been broadened in many jurisdictions to include alternatives to imprisonment. At the same time the label 'Diversion' has been attached to practically any new program involving community treatment or attempts to avoid official action."

"The National Advisory Commission on Criminal Justice Standards and Goals has developed a definition and set of guidelines which differentiate formal diversion from prevention; measures to 'minimize penetration' (i.e., probation), pre-trial release, plea bargaining and decriminalization. However, it is limited to pre-adjudication which, at least in Canada, may be unacceptable."

The Commission also suggests that diversion would be a legitimate alternative for persons whose illegal behaviour is recommended for decriminalization until decriminalization is achieved. It further stresses that diversion should be looked at, not as a solution, but as an opportunity and a commitment to change."

"The Law Reform Commission of Canada's working paper on diversion does suggest a major purpose when it states: 'Too many forms of socially problematic behaviour have been absorbed by the criminal law in recent history and this trend needs to be reversed.'"

With the above definition in hand, we sent our man, John Ettinger to Halifax to see what, if anything, was happening at the community level regarding diversion at the pre-adjudication stage of the criminal justice process. Is diversion working?



OW OR PAY LATER

EDITED BY JOHN ETTINGER

On April 28th I attended the weekly meeting of the North End Criminal Diversion Committee, held at Veith House in Halifax. Basically, this impressively titled committee is a group of public-spirited and concerned citizens of Halifax's North End (Wards 3 and 5). Perhaps now, you're wondering what exactly is diversion? A textbook definition of the term, quoted from the report on Young Persons in Conflict with the Law is, "... the concept of diversion, is the utilization of a variety of resources within the community as alternatives to processing a person through the formal court system." Diversion is a sensible alternative to the traditional law-enforcement mechanisms, and more importantly -- it keeps people out of jail.

What impressed me most about the Diversion Committee was that it's involved in the act of doing. What I mean is, the members don't sit around over coffee discussing the latest socio/criminological trends and theories, no, far from it. They are a grass-roots movement, engaged in assisting individuals, who are on the brink of being chewed, swallowed then spit out by the criminal justice gellum.

As I mentioned earlier, the Diversion Committee is a group of doers not talkers. Of the several projects they have going, one of the more worthwhile and practical is Pioneer Village. Pioneer Village is a camp, located on five acres of land, approximately eighteen miles south of Halifax. The operating principle behind the camp is a simple one: Give North End teenagers a pleasant place in the country to spend the summer, involved in creative constructive activities; rather than spending their time idle, hanging-out on the streets of the city. The premise is simple yet sensible, and this is why; it's during the summer months that most young people have their first brush with the law, not because they feel rejected, dejected, or inspected, but mostly out of boredom -- that's right; because there's nothing to do, and by the end of July some of them are game for almost and kind of 'entertainment'.

Pioneer Village will provide all the usual camping activities to resi-

dents of the North End community, who otherwise have little or no opportunity to escape the inner-city environment. The majority of those using the Village will be young people referred by Youth Services. However, the camp is not exclusively for young people, as there are programs designed to include the recreational needs of single parent families. By now you may be saying to yourself that Pioneer Village sounds like a really square scene, but if it keeps just a handful of young people out of the bucket, even for one night, then in my book it's a success.

In order for the Diversion Committee's projects to get off the drawing-board and into full operation, several changes will have to occur: 1) Money, Money, and More Money; 2) Support from the public and private sectors of society. At present there is little more than token support from private industry and zero from the public. The Diversion Committee has been faced with this almost unresolvable dilemma since its inception. A portion of the meeting was devoted to the who's, what's and why's of promoting diversion. The following recorded excerpt will help clarify the Diversion Committee's outlook and orientation.

* * *

Ron Parsons: The one big problem here now, is the finances to carry on the work in diversion that's been going on here. Coalition Supportive Services, for example, facing one more year of life; there's been no effort to refund that project. Even from a point-of-view of simple economics, Coalition is a paying situation. When you can keep a man on the street for less than ten-thousand a year and still having him a tax-paying citizen that's a-hell-of-a-lot cheaper than keeping him inside. It's as simple as that, plus any rehabilitation acts that might come there as well.

Gertrude Knight (Chairperson of the Ward 5 Community Resources Council): Do you think, maybe it's perhaps time that we started educating the public to about those facts and figures, because they don't have them?

Ron: Yes, but you see Gert, you're

talking about a momentous sort of a problem You see, if you're engaged in diversion you're engaged with people, individuals on almost a one-to-one basis. If you start talking about educating the public you're talking about a program that's so far beyond a small group like this that it's just phenomenal. Take for instance, the very first one you'd run into is the Police Association and what-the-hell is that guy's name

Several Voices: Joe Ross.

Ron: And Joe Ross -- you can get up and have a dozen people speak on diversion and Joe Ross can get on that bloody television and in five minutes he's got more people listening to them than the other dozen The media is available to both groups, but the whole point is people are not listening in respect to diversion. They don't want to get interested in it, and I bet you if you were to canvass, take sampling shots anywhere you'd find that the greater percentage of people would say, "Better prisons, that's what we need."

Gert: "Lock 'em up, lock 'em up, lock 'em up!"

Ron: And that's the attitude, how do you overcome that? The education program is so extensive.

John Unroe (Parole Service): The only appeal that you can have with the people that aren't listening . . . of course the courts have a vested interest in not having the system cross-circuited, that the courts aren't used, because the biggest money-maker and the biggest prestige thing is the judge, eh. He's a payoff for a very unpleasant job and they pay him well, eh. Now, I'll tell you who I think, there is an ear that is very amenable, eh, right, and that's the guy on the street that's paying the goddamn judge's salary, right, and paying

the penitentiary bill.

Rev. Cal Pretty (Rector of St. Mark's Church): This is where I want to come in -- you see, an organization or a group or whatever, such as Criminal Diversion or Coalition Supportive Services, is posing a goddamn big threat to people who are BA's, Master's, and getting sixteen-thou to be a federal employee or what, except for a few conscientious people.

John: It threatens me.

Cal: The thing is, there is a communication-barrier -- they're so use to talking professionally, breaking the kid up or the adult up into all kinds of segments, and this has been my bag for a long time; and diagnosing the problem and shutting it away and not rehabilitating the individual, this kind of thing. But that's the most comfortable role to have -- you're guaranteeing a job, you're guaranteeing a security, you're guaranteeing a label. But for people like you (speaking to Gert) and me, who can sit down and talk to a kid on drugs or talk to a person with a record, whose in an environment that's just destroying him and he comes out more negatively than when he went into the system . . . we're a hell-of-a big threat to that establishment.

John: Especially when you start realizing that the bartenders, the waitresses and the taxidivers are far more effective people than all of the bloody graduates of the Maritime School of Social Work over the last twenty years. And if you start realizing that potential, right

Ron: Alright then, may I ask a question? Where's diversion going from here? I mean we've looked at all the sorts of things that shouldn't be done; what will the positive steps be? Everytime I come to a diversion meeting I



Hear the same things come up again -- the goddamn government is asking us for another study, we've been studied . . .

John: Okay, one thing that we did do, finally the money did come through for two street-workers, one to be an ex-in-mate, for sure, and the other is, of course, a community person, right, y'know. I think there's going to be a stable base starting from that. The second thing is the Pioneer Village thing, is a thing I'm even getting sick of talking about. We did another brief for Pioneer Village, right. Friday we're going to hike out there and have all of the people that are interested in using the place, eh, right, for any purpose that sounds solid, eh. The One Parent Family Association, Welfare Rights, the Youth Clinic, Mini-Museum; we're willing to have a workshop right on the premises, eh. And anybody who can't hike in, right, that little trail, well that's going to sort the wheat from the chaff, eh. Because they can't hike in now they're not going to hike in later, right, y'know.

Bill Leslie (Classification Officer, Springhill): What's exactly the tie-in between Pioneer Village and diversion?

John: Well, one of the things is that there are a lot of people, especially in the North End of Halifax, who have trouble escaping the city, eh. It's a prison down here on this street to some people, eh; they don't have summer cottages, right. If a person is in trouble with the law -- in fact, in that situation, a fellow was going to court, the next week, right, and he was uptight. So, by going hiking he had a little adventure, his wife wasn't nagging him, right, and you get to talking. The alternative would have been for him to spend the weekend worrying about his court hearing, right, hit the local tavern, end up on Monday morning with a hangover, right, and not trust anybody. It's a legitimate avenue for adventure, eh, right, that doesn't cost as much as the pub. Now, that's a long-shot tie-in. But with kids, especially fifteen and sixteen, one of the biggest things that was expressed at the Ward Council meetings, was that in the summer a lot of the kids are going to be out on the street, as usual; there's no employment opportunities, kids are sixteen, seventeen, eighteen, no possibility of jobs. So, what do you do -- you go to Göttingen Street to rip-off the merchants for spending money. The alternative to that is to be going on hiking or canoeing or many other creative activities, eh, that are cost free.

Gert: We've also discussed with the Göttingen Street Merchant's Association

that if they catch kids lifting stuff, that they will contact us rather than the police. Not all of them gave us a firm commitment on that; but I do know that there are some of the merchants there now that are not coming down on the kids too hard, because some of them are beginning to realize too. Anyhow, one of the shopkeepers said it wasn't the kids he was worried about, it was the adults.

Ron: There's another problem there too, in that the protection agencies that these shopowners hire are paid for convictions.

John: Rent-A-Cops.

Ron: Yeah, Rent-A-Cops.

Bill: It'll increase productivity if you get a bounty for them.

Ron: Oh yeah, though some of the merchants are getting fairly humane.

Gert: Some more of them were interested in our concept of what should be done with the kids, which is: turn them over to somebody, let's find out what's in the community that they're interested in doing. If they want to go out to Pioneer Village, if there's a recreation project You see, one of the problems is, that even though living in Ward 3, I am not yet and just now getting information about all the recreation things that are available to kids.

Ron: The other thing that's happening too, is that the rip-off costs and the protection costs are getting so high that it's now cheaper to look at the possibility of investing in these kids in some way and redirecting their energies. They're now a sound enterprise for the merchants.

John: Here's a real example, there's a girl, a classic example . . . never been in prison before, who was walking down the street, she'd been in mental hospital before, who was bloody frustrated with the situation she was in, right. She was broke but wasn't out to steal, but she'd come out of a situation with the Welfare authorities and everything, eh, right, was bloody angry, eh, and smashed a window in a dry-cleaning shop, because it was the first window she saw, right, just smashed it. I can understand her, I've felt that temptation many times. Of course, then the police arrive and pick her up and everything else, eh. And so, the deal was this, an interested party intervened and tried to patch the deal with the shopkeeper. He says, "Look, the girl can work in your laundry, she needs a job, that's why she's so angry. Been shuffled from Man-

power to Welfare to Manpower to this to that to this to than and nobody'd give her a break!" So, the shopkeeper says, "Y'know I do need someone" The ideal thing would have been if he would have hired her for the cost of the window and forget about the court system, forget about it, eh, cause it's not going to in any way serve a constructive purpose in this situation, eh. It's just going to destroy things, like the shopkeeper has to spend a day in court, he doesn't want to lose that day, eh, the girl has to spend her day in court, she'll probably get a fine which she can't afford to pay. So, patch the deal it makes sense to everybody, except to the police

Bill: So what happened?

John: In this situation we patched it with the shopkeeper so he wouldn't appear in court as a witness. The police wouldn't drop charges, of course, they had nobody to prove it, did they? They had no witnesses, how could they prove the case against her? So, they had to dismiss the charges. It ended up he didn't hire her, he says, "Forget it." But, he was tempted to hire her, he came pretty close, y'know. He effectively took the responsibility for the whole thing.

Ron: Which was probable the cheapest way of him doing it too; his insurance rates didn't go up.

Bill: What has the role of the Solicitor-General's Department been, other than John being an employee of the Solicitor-General's Department?

John: None! In fact, I'm happy to say that my presence here is not because of the Solicitor-General's Department but in spite of it!

* * *

The future role of diversion in the criminal justice system should be one of prominence -- especially if you consider that the word 'justice' should have genuine meaning. The fact that the Solicitor-General's Department is merely paying lip-service to the concept of diversion may prove to be a blessing in disguise. The diversion movement remaining under the control of private individuals is the key to its success, as diversion will then be able to maintain its personal and humane touch. Large-scale government support would provide impetus but the end result would be the relinquishing of the reins to a massive government agency. Once diversion is absorbed by the Gollum, the bureaucracy is free to twist and warp the concept to suit its own ends. So, if the diversion movement can pull through this difficult period, there's hope that our society will once again place emphasis on the word 'justice' rather than only on the 'criminal'. After all, isn't it supposed to be the criminal justice system?

* * * * *



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NEWFOUNDLAND

ST. JOHN'S
Torbay Road Mall

NEW BRUNSWICK

MONCTON Moncton Mall	ST. JOHN Parkway Mall
FREDERICTON Fredericton Mall	

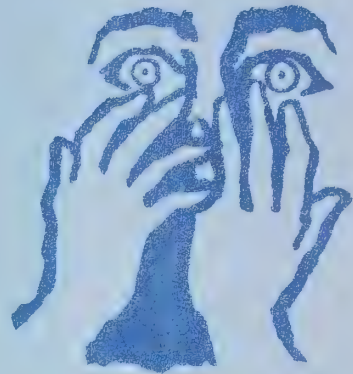
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DOOR IN THE WIND

If all my words were confessions
 what would you do with them?
 I have been looking
 for a sign.
 I have heard of them,
 and I believe
 that they exist.
 somewhere
 in the black glass of my window
 stands this person rippling out.
 She wants me.
 And I stare back, tentative,
 waiting
 for that bone behind my eyes
 to snap
 into the place
 where my worlds overlap
 with Time
 and the sudden crack
 of recognition
 fills the space
 that was my body
 with an opening,
 a door in the wind.



AUGUST 27

"Ce n'est pas trop que de naître
 et de créer chaque jour."

Colette



BETSY HELLMAN

Reputed to be still living
 somewhere on Sado Island
 the man with one hand
 who blew into my dream
 where I lay entwined
 with an octopus
 who transformed into you
 when I kissed him,
 smelling of seaweed,
 of mothballs and linseed oil,
 while thunder boomed
 off the sandbar
 at 4 in the morning
 Japan time,
 while you smiled in your sleep
 the victorious villain
 and the man with one hand
 dialed the number
 in washlight
 summoning me
 to be born with you
 pushing me through
 my dream funnel night
 into blue baby
 mauve baby
 babies bright as
 a rainbow trout,
 as magnesium flame,
 as a place with no name

folie du doute

Late at night
wandering
the deserted streets
of an unknown city
i am being
followed by a dog

Casually
i round a corner
back
suddenly flat
against brick
the dog unsuspectingly . . .

HHYXAAA! GIT OUTTA HERE
YOU STUPID GODDAMN DOG!

and the dog yelps
runs down the street
disappears into the dark distance
going godknowswhere now
to do godknowswhat

And i . . .
wandering the deserted streets
of an unknown city

wonder
if perhaps . . .

Perhaps i should follow him

the rapist

she shouldnt have been
hitchhiking along a dark road
like that
miniskirt
seethrough blouse

O the fire that raged inside
as i tore away the clothes
and naked she lay before me

And everything was fine
until she started to scream --
theres not much else you can do
when they start screaming like that --

you would have done the same thing

BERNELL MacDONALD



THE URINE OF YESTERDAY

The urine of my freedom
has passed away
out of its maker
and into the night.

And I
alone above the mess,
must bear the pain
of passing train
and gates of blue caress.

For the waste of yesterday
is no longer within me,
and the memory
of her smile

has been taken by the flood . . .

ADOPTION

I was born;

forced upon me
by unknown parents
was life.

I am forlorn;

a need for passion
has caused
my creation.

Now strife finds my soul
as strangers
of guardian role
they raise me,
they praise me and yet;

If their own could be had,
then who
would
I
be

JOHN D. SANGSTER

WILSON STAPLETON

gamekeeping

in prison the motherfuckers wear the guns
& the motherfucked obey the rules.

authority

u cut my love
with the quotations
of sociologists. yr words
footnote
my life while outside
u ask psychologists
directions
to my home.

i should run away from u. but
i cannot escape,
i cannot escape; yr keyhole mind
will always question me
as u lost in the corridors of intellect
promise my dreams
the fame of bookstores.

i should run away from u, but no matter
where i run, mirror,
u will always
pursue.



drifter

how do you say goodbye
to your yesterdays. you write

poems to remind you
of what? hurt, a longing. i would cry

but there are no tears.
yesterday i came to brotherhood

and they
told me to go, do your own

thing
and tomorrow? what will be

my thing tomorrow?

WILSON STAPLETON

VERBAL CANVAS

Painters painting poets,
Poets painting pictures
with passive pen,
Writing words of wisdom
with worthless wit,
massaging mild men
who wag their way
to galleries gut
of grubby grey
that painters and poets
try hard to say,

is sick and sad
and hardly fit,

For
Godly
game
and
fruitful frame,
that
painted
poets
paint

JOHN D. SANGSTER



in idle hours

OSCAR NELSON

i wait in idle hours
for end of forgotten lore
that bring me heavi showers
and monstereous cravins for ravens

forgotten lore
that leaves my heart torn
my soul worn
my freedom yet un-born

while my mind soars
to melancholy meadows
where ecstacies for my love dance
in rose gardens and things
but even it rings

to dealing with demons
of material possessions and weapons
playing music of sour notes
that are set to one tune
making some ravens think they're doves
and loves
it.

end hour
of
no power.

die forgotten lore
that never bore
good fruit

only over ripened ones
spoiled
and bad
for
human consumption.



ODE FOR TWO UNIVERSITY OF WATERLOO CHEMISTS*

Frontalin, derived from sugar SHEILA MARTINDALE
makes synthetic sex
to lure spruce beetles
to their deaths.

Sensing the sweet attractant
they come in droves
to taste the honeyed promise

and plunge headlong
and unsuspecting
in the fatal trap.

Beetle or man
the end result
is all the same

but getting there
is so much fun
and half the game.

* who developed the formula





LOVE

MARTY SMITH

Love is very patient and kind,
Never jealous or envious,
boastful or proud
haughty or selfish or rude.

Love does not demand its own way.
It is not irritable or touchy,
Does not hold grudges
And will hardly even notice
When others do it wrong.
Love is never glad about injustice,
But rejoices when truth wins out.

If you love someone
You will be loyal to them,
No matter what the cost.
You will always believe in them,
Always expect the best of them,
And always stand your ground
in defending them.

All the special gifts and powers from them
Will someday come to an end,
But love goes on forever.

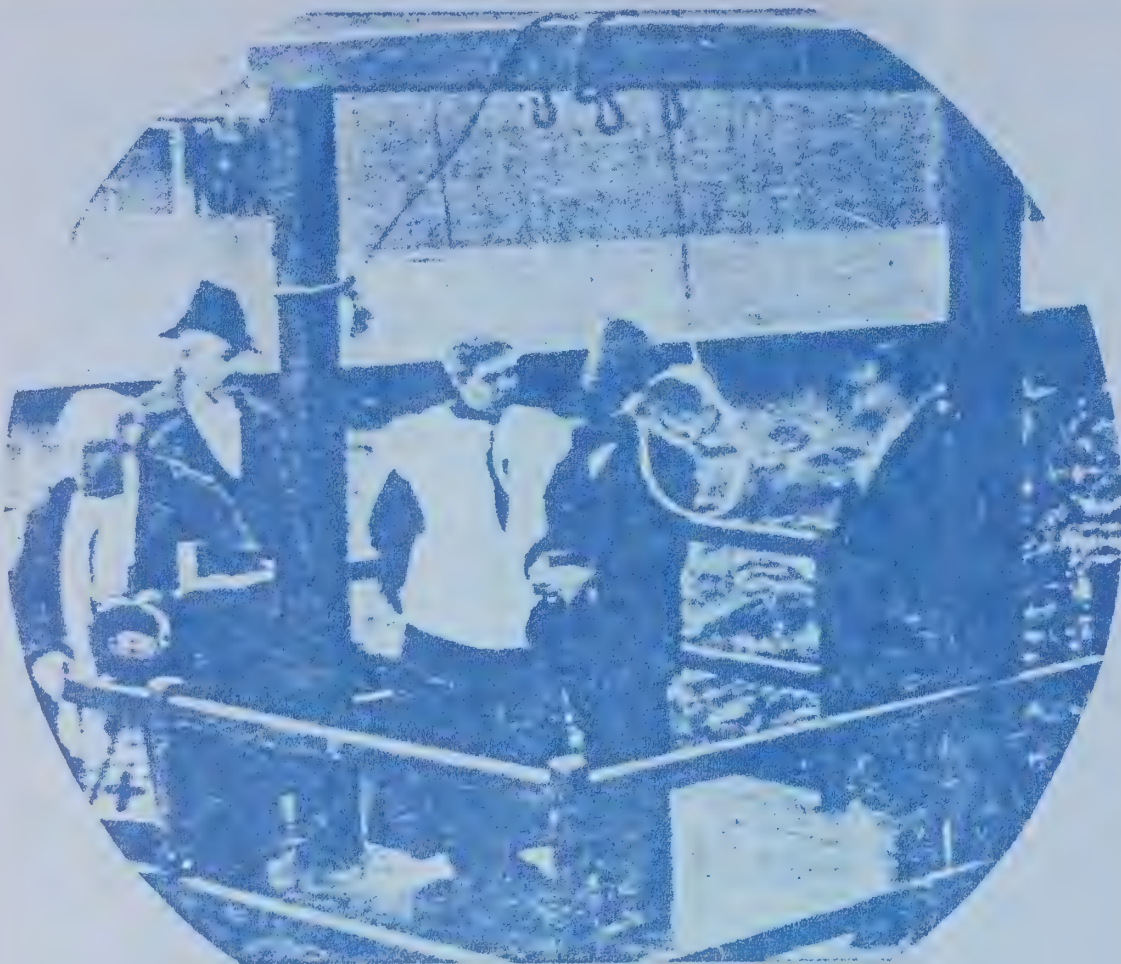
There are three things that remain:
Faith Hope Love
And the greatest of them all is Love.

WONDERS

As the golden leaves of fall slowly drift to the ground,
I wonder how soon the snow will be around.
I gaze out the window late every night
And wonder how come the stars shine so bright.
They seem so far up in the sky, how is it possible
To see them with the naked eye? How is it to die?
Without seeing the wonders of the sky.

Then comes the day which makes this world so bright.
It seems so right to witness,
The passing of a night.
What the new day has in store,
We're never quite sure.
Mother Earth fills us with faith
Then uses us for bait.
SO WHY IN THE HELL ARE WE HERE?

BRIAN RAND



"One summer morning at Bockhampton, just before he sat down to breakfast, he remembered that a man was to be hanged at eight o'clock at Dorchester. He took up the big brass telescope that had been handed on in the family, and hastened to a hill on the heath a quarter of a mile from the house, whence he looked towards the town. The sun behind his back shone straight on the white stone facade of the goal, the gallows upon it, and the form of the murderer in white fustian, the executioner and officials in dark clothing and the crowd below being invisible at this distance of nearly three miles. At the moment of his placing the glass to his eye the white figure dropped downwards, and the faint note of the town clock struck eight.

The whole thing had been so sudden that the glass nearly fell from Hardy's hands. He seemed alone on the heath with the hanged man, and crept homeward wishing he had not been so curious. It was the second and last execution he witnessed, the first having been that of a woman two or three years earlier, when he stood close to the gallows."

Excerpt from: The Early Life of Thomas Hardy, 1840-1891,
(1928), The Macmillan Co. of Canada, Ltd.

POYLS OF WISDOM

by Parahamster Donut and
Dindon(Hewhonewho comes in the flush)



THE RED BREAST HAS REJOINED THE GLOWING NECK, MY SUN, GROWS LARGER WITH EACH revulsion of the planets. The noxious Dindon has left on a pilgrimage to the fog shrine; lost for many years in the wilds of Cape Breton. Those disciples not on retreat with us here at the burned wing refuge may encounter the dear brudder on one of the many paths to Noxema. A warning to them: He may only be approached from the front; those seeking words of wisdom from the rear shall be shat upon.

The un is one . . . meditate upon this profound message from the bowel of the universal thrust. Rejoice in the festive spirit of no-saying. Say NO to those purveyors and traffickers of darkness. Come into the light that you may receive the blessings of un, the supreme nothingness.

The warmth approaches, bringing forth life from the dung-heap of the earth. The ancient fertility prince, Sandoz is awakening from the long sleep. Ouroborus is retreading his ribs for the * * * ritual, held daily for those aspiring to flee or to catch a glimpse of those mystical tails that enrich our unlife so.

Fill your soul with whatever is at hand; the golden glow of a humid valley, the zing of life. Consume the world -- the indigestion will only kill you. The timeless unlife at the shrine will preserve your youth, for we shall keep you from rooting too deep into the darkness. The GUARDIANS will protect you from those nasty desires. Lose the wish to treadmill in search of freedom.

It has been asked many times of the tribal elders, "What is the Answer?" The ridiculous reply of the wizened gnomes is, "What was the Question?"

For this month's exercise we shall stand on one root, the other suitably arranged in the opposite nostril. The empty nostril should be positioned in close proximity to the free armpit. As a suggestion: Those whose previous attempts to stimulate the untastebuds, would be well advised to nibble the tender shoots of the native grasses, using the utmost care not to eat dirt more often than every third sprout.

* PROFUNDITY OF DE MUNT *

Ringworms are fun to race.



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GAY ALLIANCE FOR EQUALITY

NEWS RELEASE:



MAY 12, 1976

The National Gay Rights Coalition, a coalition of 27 gay organizations across Canada, has called for the removal of the concept of "dangerous (sexual) offender" from the Canadian Criminal Code. In a brief presented today to the Standing Committee on Justice and Legal Affairs, the Coalition criticized Bill C-83, the federal government's "peace and security" legislation.

Despite many of the recommendations of one of its own committees (the Canadian Committee on Corrections), the government has reintroduced in Bill C-83 practically the same legislation which now allows people classified as "dangerous sexual offenders" to be confined indefinitely. The term "dangerous sexual offender" would be replaced by the term "dangerous offender," but would continue to include persons convicted of non-violent, consensual offences. Legislation allowing indefinite confinement is found in few countries, and not in England or the United States.

The National Gay Rights Coalition opposes the "dangerous sexual offender" provisions of Bill C-83 because of the difficulty in determining the potential dangerousness of an individual, the abuses which have stemmed from this legislation in the past, the vague and imprecise terms of the legislation, the lack of safeguards and the disregard for the rights of the individual, the severity of the punishment and the inhumane treatment "dangerous sexual offenders" have received in federal penitentiaries.

"The most blatant of these injustices is obviously the inclusion in this

Bill of non-violent, consensual offences such as 'gross indecency'," the brief says.

"Gross indecency" is used to refer to all sexual acts, outside of heterosexual coitus, performed by two persons not married to each other, one of whom is under 21, or by any two persons in a "public place" (which, under the law, includes a park or a parked car, or anywhere at all if a third person is present). "Gross indecency" covers only cases where there is no violence and both parties consent to the act.

"In legislation designed to protect society from violence, the term 'gross indecency' is conspicuously out of place," the brief concludes. "Dangerous sexual offender" legislation has traditionally been used as a means of indefinitely confining homosexuals.

The Law Reform Commission of Canada recently called for an end to the concept of "dangerous sexual offender", stating that "a man should be sentenced for the harm he has done, not for what he is."

The Gay Alliance for Equality, together with the National Gay Rights Coalition, of which it is a founding member, demands that the concept of "dangerous (sexual) offender" be removed from the Criminal Code.

For further information contact Robin Metcalfe at (902) 425-6967; or write to Gay Alliance for Equality, P.O. Box 161, Armdale Sta., Halifax, N.S. B3L 4G9



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RURAL HALF-WAY HOUSE

Brian 'Maui' Pace



"How can we hear the song of the field while our ears have the clamor of the city to swallow?"

Kahil Gibran

Today most men and women being released from prison return to their old neighborhoods, old friendships, and old lifestyles. This eventually gets them involved in the same criminal activities that initially brought them to prison. I believe that these men and women should be encouraged to develop new and healthier lifestyles, preferably living in the country. I believe that living on the land in a rural setting can be a positive environment for the rebirth of individuals being released from prison. Such a rural environment would allow these people to work with their hands, to grow crops, to raise livestock, and to get back to the basics of life. Living in a rural community would give them an opportunity to re-establish values and goals, to live with others, to give and to receive love without fearing the consequences.

As it stands, this type of rural community is not considered an acceptable parole residence. Most Parole Boards and other organs of authority will not allow ex-prisoners to get involved with rural communes (a rurally based agrarian community where folks live and work together for common goals) or other so called counter-culture groups. In fact, they prohibit the association of ex-prisoners in any way whatsoever, and this, of course, applies to communities intended precisely for these folks.

This present limitation imposed upon newly released individuals needs to be removed. The Department of Corrections and members of the Parole Board must be made to realize that communes can be beneficial environments for ex-prisoners. There are hundreds of "respectable" communes and other types of intentional communities across the land. The old image, mostly created by the media, of communes full of dope smokers, wild parties, and sex orgies, etc., is a

thing of the past. Most of the folks who have chosen to live together rural-ly, rather than the up-tight rat-race cities, are intelligent individuals, well capable of making responsible decisions as to what they believe is their right place in this world. They have decided to give up the city life for the country life; it's as simple as that. They are serious about their chosen niche, and they plan to make the best of it, and hopefully, become completely self-sufficient. There are as many types of communities as there are philosophies and lifestyles: spiritual communes, work communes, political, farming, and "behavior" communes, as well as Christian communes, you name it. Why not a commune or community for the ex-prisoner?

In determining how to set up a commune such as this and trying to ascertain the needed organizational structure, I have been examining the makeup and format of the present forms of "half way houses" in this country. I find that what makes these half-way houses so positive and for the most part successful is the fact that the members are all in the same predicament and the group cohesion is strong. Personally, I have been to an alcoholic detoxification center, in Santa Cruz, California (1972), and I know from experience what makes a place such as this so successful. The whole operation is being run by ex-alcoholics! What this means is that when one has made the choice to "dry up" and get straight, and has begun living at the facility with other folks, people whom one doesn't even know, it makes a big difference that these people are all together and that they are all after the same thing. These people can identify with each other, and they can help each other make it through the rough parts. There is ESPRIT DE CORPS, and no matter how hard things go for any one person; the rest of the folks there can help pull the other person through.

However, this type of "togetherness" is missing for the ex-prisoner, as he must return to "straight" society and is expected to move right back into the

mainstream of daily social life and job seeking; he is expected to become well-adjusted and happy, successful in his efforts, after many years of being locked up much the same as an animal in a zoo! It's almost impossible (as evidenced by the high rate of recidivism) for anyone coming out of prison to make it in society the way things are today.

So, I believe that present inmates should be informed as to what life-style alternatives are. They should be shown that they do have alternatives to living other than their previous life-styles; styles that evidently will bring them back to prison. Also I think that a communication network should be set up on a national level that would allow inmates from across the land to communicate and correspond with folks that are living in community now, as well as groups uninvolved in social change, or anyone who can help them find which direction would be best for them to travel upon their release from prison. Inmates cannot presently correspond with other inmates directly, but I see nothing wrong with their communicating indirectly through a centralized location for information exchange.

In order to accomplish this task, I am looking for a group that will be willing to handle this project. I welcome any suggestions. Such a group could handle mail from inmates and coordinate the folks inside the prisons with folks on the outside who want to help their brothers and sisters behind bars in finding their proper niche in this world. A program needs to be set up that will meet with the approval of the Parole Board as well as other authorities.

Once this program has been worked out on paper, it would then have to be presented to the authorities for consideration, and either approved or rejected. If it is rejected then we would have to work on it further until it met with approval.

At the moment, what is needed is more interest from folks outside the prison walls. If and when this interest is expressed, I am sure there will be increased enthusiasm and response from the inmates. It is very difficult to muster up any sustained hope, positive motivation, or inspiration in a place such as prison, so the success of this project depends on how these ideas are received and responded to by the folks on the outside, who are in positions to do something and help out in any way they can. The inmates are very limited from within the prison structures, and it is very difficult for them to contact the right groups and organizations to get things done smoothly and swiftly. They need the assistance of free individuals. Prisoners are forced mainly to work only through the mail, which, as everyone knows, is somewhat lacking in efficiency.

For now, I'll let these ideas float and I'll wait to hear from interested folks, from people who care to add their energy to this project. I believe that this project is worth the efforts of good-minded and positive people, and when we get the needed support of folks out there, then I know that the interest will grow inside the prison, and the people who were so doubtful and unbelieving before will take heart and renew their hope; then perhaps we can get down to some real planning!

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PRISONERS - KNOW YOUR RIGHTS!

PHIL WHYNOTT



This column is being published to advise prisoners as to what rights they have. While it is aimed primarily at prisoners in Springhill, it should hold true for any prisoner in any federal prison in Canada. The source for our material are the Commissioner's Directives, which originate in Ottawa. We hope to make this a continuing series with something new each issue. Copies of the directives are available in the prison library.

COMMISSIONER'S DIRECTIVE NO. 213 "GUIDELINES FOR INMATE DISCIPLINE"

The purpose of No. 213 is to ensure approved standards of behaviour and conduct, and to show what happens when they don't approve.

You're entitled to written information, within two weeks of coming here, on disciplinary requirements of the prison, including offences and punishments for said offences.

Some examples of offences as listed in Penitentiary Service Regulation No. 2.29 are:

- 1) disobeys or fails to obey a lawful order of a penitentiary officer
- 2) refuses to work
- 3) has contraband in his possession
- 4) assaults or threatens to assault another person
- 5) does any act that is calculated to prejudice the discipline or good order of the institution

These offences can be either called minor offences or serious offences. If you're found guilty of a serious offence punishment will consist of one or more of the following:

- 1) loss of Remission
- 2) up to thirty (30) days in the hole on a regular or restricted diet
- 3) loss of privileges

If you're found guilty of a minor offence, punishment shall consist of the loss of one or more privileges.

Any offences that contravene the Criminal Code of Canada will be dealt with in outside court. You may be kept in Dissociation pending court appearance.

When an institutional officer witnesses an offence he shall take one or

more of the following steps:

- 1) order the inmate to stop or use the necessary force, including firearms or other weapons to make him stop
- 2) warn, reprimand and counsel those involved
- 3) advise the senior security officer on duty if Dissociation is warranted
- 4) take note of the offence and place a written memorandum on inmate's file for future reference
- 5) write an offence report

HEARING OF CHARGES

The hearing of a prisoner under charge will start within three (3) working days from the date of the offence but may be adjourned from time to time.

No finding shall be made against a prisoner charged under 2.29 for a serious offence unless he:

- 1) has received written, detailed notice of the charge
- 2) has at least twenty-four (24) hours after receiving such notice to prepare his defence
- 3) has appeared personally at the hearing so that the evidence against him was given in his presence
- 4) has been given full opportunity to answer and defend the charge, including introducing documents and cross-examining the witnesses, which shall be done through the presiding officer (you can call, but will not necessarily get your own witnesses)
- 5) the decision as to guilt or innocence shall be based solely on the evidence produced at the hearing and if a conviction is to be registered it can only be on the basis that after a fair and impartial weighing of the evidence there is no reasonable doubt as to the guilt of the accused

DISSOCIATION

Dissociation of a prisoner shall be considered as a severe penalty and other less severe punishments shall be considered before it is imposed. Reasons for such dissociation will always be given to the prisoner as soon as action is

taken.

Clothing for prisoners in Dissociation shall conform to the style which prevails in the general prison population. Every prisoner placed in Dissociation shall be examined as soon as possible by the prison physician. You will be provided with a mattress, pillow and an adequate supply of bed clothing, which will be removed during non-sleeping hours. You will be given at least one-half hour of exercise in the open air in winter and one hour in the summer, on every day when weather and other conditions permit.

Every prisoner in Dissociation shall be visited:

- 1) at least once every twenty-four (24) hours either by the Director of the institution, the senior officer of the week or the officer in charge of the institution
- 2) at least once every hour by the of-

ficer on duty in that part of the institution

- 3) once a day by a hospital officer

There is much more information in these directives than is listed here. It is available in the library and should be read by every prisoner who is interested in his rights.

Remember -- as you have certain rights so has the Administration. Your rights have been won by a lot of hard work by other prisoners and people working on behalf of prisoners. If you don't insist on them when necessary, you are letting down other prisoners. The rules and rights are for our use, not abuse. There's a difference between scratching our ass and tearing it all to pieces; so use good judgement when fighting your case or asserting your rights.

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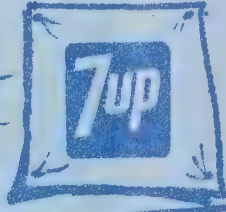


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THE SPRINGHILL JAYCEES . . . WHY?



DOUG DENNIS

Why are Jaycee Units in prisons? The reason that there are Jaycee Units in prisons is because the Jaycee organization believes that the opportunity which Jaycees provide for personal growth and development of leadership abilities is very substantial and unique. Many young men have gotten a great deal out of Jaycees on the street and we feel that this same opportunity can, and has provided a great deal of personal growth for men in prisons, who are sincerely interested in bettering themselves.

A Jaycee Chapter in a prison offers an individual a different set of goals and a new direction in which to channel his energies and his life in a constructive pattern.

The above are two excerpts taken from a booklet entitled "Jaycees Inside" put out by Dennis Chipman, National Corrections Chairman for the Canada Jaycees. I used them to give a very brief run-down on why there is a Jaycee Unit in Springhill Institution; a complete run-down on our aims and purposes would take up several pages, and space is limited.

We have been referred to as "just another joint club" or "a rich con's club" (because of the \$19.00 membership fee) -- not so! Once a person becomes a member inside and leaves an institution, he is automatically accepted as a member of whatever local chapter he wants to join or have his membership transferred to. There is no stigma attached to an individual about being an ex-con; he is accepted for what he is -- another human

being. He has to prove his own worth, like any other member does, it is his decision.

Our training courses are open to the general population and are aimed at benefiting the inmate upon his release. The Leadership in Action course shows one how to set goals and the necessary steps to take to attain those goals. The Effective Speaking course provides the opportunity to learn how to address public gatherings and gain the confidence and overcome the shyness to put across your ideas and opinions effectively. We hope to soon have a Toastmaster's Club in progress and also put on a St. John's Ambulance First Aid training course.

The Jaycees have a program called Community Development. The Springhill Chapter has adopted the policy that the community we are most interested in developing is our own Penal Community of Springhill Institution. All of our programs have been redesigned for that one purpose. When the funds become available we hope to be able to provide extra movies, bingo, raffles, variety shows, and, of course, more training sessions that will assist you upon release.

Naturally, we need support and members to put these plans into operation. So, if you should have some spare time on a Tuesday night around 7 P.M., why not drop over to the auditorium and see what it's all about? You might be surprised; it could be the best two hour investment you ever made in your life.

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TH-TH-THAT'S ALL FOLKS! 'Yogi' Blondeau

There have been a few activities going on around here the past two months. We had our G-Range painted by Dave McQuade and Larry Billard, with a little help from their friend Charlie Anderson. Thanks guys.

Unit 8 held a few tournaments on April 3rd and 4th. Ernie and Dave would like to thank the guys who participated. The winners were:

Crib Doubles -- Anderson and Bushfan
Crib Singles -- Ernie Bowser
Whist -- Lattie and Gosby
Darts Doubles -- Weaver and Cooper
Darts Singles -- Joe Baker
Chess -- Tom McIlvena
1st Door Prize -- McIlvena
2nd Door Prize -- Hodgen

There was a total of sixty-two participants who entered the tournaments.

GET THIS

Darcy Lunn is on his way to rehabilitation -- he enrolled in school a month ago and B.B. says it's about time. ("You can make it kid." -- Larry and Dave)

'YOGI' INTERVIEWS

Bert Chinn: Me, the captain of No. 8's ball team predicts that we'll take the championship because there isn't enough competition in the other units.

Larry Buchanan: What kind of a guy would believe in ten foot worms? Fifield is trying to convince me that there are ten foot worms.

Barry Logan: Goodbye for now George.

Norman Warren: I'm still looking for one . . . I'll find one yet.

Derek Lloyd: Either the woman in A-2 goes or I go. I can't stand someone as fussy and bitchy as her. Even when you ask her for a spoon of sugar, she gives you all kind of back-talk.

Bruce Fifield: I wish Buchanan would give his jaws a rest . . . he's always talking.

Well, until next time, if I'm here, which I hope not.

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Unit Report: NUMBER NINE IS HEAVEN by 5097



THE UNFORTUNATE FEW

Last month was parole month and a few unfortunate inmates from No. 9 made it back out onto the street. It was a rough break for the fellows but I'm sure the general public will do as much as is inhumanly possible to avoid rendering their assistance, and hopefully this will frustrate the boys to the point where they will want to return home.

The institution is also doing their part to enable a quick return and ensure their own livelihood as well. For instance, the institution will allow an inmate who has been in jail for nine months up to twenty years to make his re-entry into society, to hit the street with a minimum of fifty dollars. You

would think that any fool could see that fifty bucks won't last until a guy can get his first pay cheque, if he happens to be lucky enough to get a job. It's a good thing nobody is trying to push for the guys to stay on the street by giving them a chance. Everybody knows we all love jail and think of all the unemployment!

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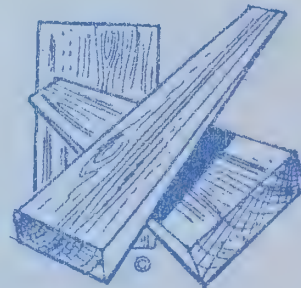
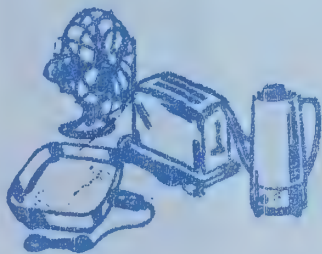
The two-hundred and twenty-one dollar loss has been corrected by residents of No. 9 and there is a new man of worthy character to ensure a copecetic canteen operation in the future. The Heat-O-Meter is off for the summer, at least as far as the canteen is concerned. Farewell from Funsville.

(No. 9 sports report on following page)

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NUMBER 9 UNIT SPORTS REPORT

No. 9's floor hockey team for '75-'76, once again had a fiery season, in which they held first-place all year and entered the play-offs looking strong, as the team to beat. When the play-offs were completed; for the third consecutive year the trophy was awarded to No.9. With the taste of victory still fresh, team captain Charlie Turner said, "The whole team played good and that's why we're champions. We expect to go all-out again when the new season starts."

Ice hockey teams had some difficulty over the winter -- considering that it was a mild winter and the Rec. gang had their hands full keeping the ice in top playing condition. However, this problem was overcome by having teams go out to play at the Springhill rink. Hopefully, Earl Lees will organize more sports to be played in the surrounding communities.

As far as ball hockey is concerned, well, No. 9 didn't seem to have much interest in the game -- though they should have done better. An interest in volleyball seems to be picking up in all the units. In fact, a general interest in sports has picked up since the new gym opened.

Softballs are starting to roll but it's a little too early to tell what kind of squad No. 9 will put on the diamond. There's certainly no shortage of anxious rookies. Once the regular season begins we should be able to field a respectable team.

In closing, we would like to say that the officials in all sports are doing a fine job -- especially if you consider the demanding and sometimes threatening conditions they work under. Charlie Dunn was called upon to assume active duty as third man behind the plate and looked as though he was born for the spot. There is a rumour circulating that ol' Charlie may be released immediately, if not sooner, to fill a vacancy in the National League staff. When asked to comment, Charlie said he'd rather finish the season here and then cruise down to Puerto Rico to ump winter ball. A last word of thanks to the other Sports Reps. who've done a commendable job.

Sports Reps.
Al Spicer
Charlie Turner



NUMBER 9 FLOOR HOCKEY CHAMPIONS

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'WORKING TOGETHER WITH
THE MALE OFFENDER'

No 10 Unit: THE T.C. WORD

by Teddy Carr



The last month has seen a big change in the population of No. 10, with lots of guys headed to the farm and the street. Things had gotten rather crowded in April but now it's back to normal. I hope the guys at the farm don't mind all the work ahead of them.

Vince Bezanson has a discussion group going with some of the guys and it seems to be going OK. Four members received certificates for successfully completing the twelve week course. Bob Childs presented certificates to: Dave Martin, Bernie Goakery, Ronnie Pawn and Kevin Wiffin. The next group has already started and more power to them. It's good to know that we have a project run by cons for cons, which is recognized as valid by the administration.

No. 10 is getting spruced-up with a new paint job. The dirt certainly needed a cover-up, but some of the artwork in the drums is lost forever. Blue is by far the favorite color, but then in here don't we all have the blues at one time or another. And speaking of blue -- the blue pamphlet of propaganda on the new laws before Parliament now, has stirred up quite a commotion in the unit. Guys who never heard a law until they went to court are taking interest. It may be that a big effort to write the MP's will be happening in the near-future.

We are having trouble getting projects off the ground nowadays. Four months of planning a vegetable garden left us with a dead-end at every turn. There seems to be no tractors, no shovels, and even worse, no good soil in which to plant. Rumors have it that uncontrolled growth of certain weeds was feared by some. Our contingency plan now is to spread in the fields all the excessive amounts of manure produced here in an effort to revitalize the soil for next year. Meanwhile, there are the flower beds to keep the green thumbs busy.

The sports scene is kind of gloomy now, after the wind-up of the hockey season. No. 10 held onto 1st place in regular season play of both floor hockey and ball hockey; but when it came to the crunch at play-off time the team became

all unglued. Our star went out when Al Maillet returned to the street, but fresh blood replaced him in time for ball hockey. The Lemoine brothers put in a fine show with an undying effort for the defence. We lost a good bunch of players to the farm as the ball hockey play-offs got underway, which led to quitting by others and the team just fell apart after a 15 game undefeated season. We will never win anything that way.

Softball is next to come and with the leadership of coach Paul Craig and captain Dave "The Chief" Francis we should be in good shape. What we need now is a pitcher to rally the team behind. No matter what happens during the season, if the team can pull it all together for the play-offs, just maybe we can get a trophy this season.

The word is the Recreation staff intends to come down heavy on the so-called "jailhouse sports" this season. It seems they don't approve of the fist-cuffs and the odd use of bats for any hitting other than balls. Hope no one ends up playing ball in the maxi-league.

The long Easter weekend saw a flurry of competitions in the unit and the entire prison. Our strong arm man of the unit, Eldon St. Peter, walked off with the lightweight armwrestling prize. Bill Spears deserves thanks for going through a lot of hassles in organizing the armwrestling contest. For some unknown reason all the skinny dudes won the sweat-belts in the Bingo on Easter Sunday -- He works in strange ways. Back in the unit we had cards and darts going all weekend. The Double Whist tournament was cornered by Tom Carter and Dave Samson, who walked away with first prize in both sets. Three rounds of darts left Clarence Gallant, Tony Tucker and Pete Blackler each with a win. All in all it was a pretty good weekend (for here). Since then we've had a badminton night in the gym, with the honors going to John Roberts with ease.

The job of Sports Rep. has recently fallen into new hands; Bill Spears and Tony Tucker are assuming responsibility and we should see lots of events over the summer months.

* * * * *

NO 11 Happenings: IT'S A MAD MAD CYTROM by Doug Dennis



In the past, two major news events rocked the world to it's very foundations: "World War Two Has Been Declared" and "The Pope is Fallible." In more recent times a shocked populace was stunned into open-mouthed disbelief by news of an even more horrendous nature: "Dougie D. Gets Five Nights Cell Time." Yes, gentle reader, it is true. Yours truly was banished to the nether regions of his cell, to search his soul and seek redemption for his sins. However, now that society has had its pound of flesh, I have once again emerged to titillate your optic nerves with wonderous words of wit and wisdom.

A top executive of the Springhill Jaycees (a past President, at that) was observed purchasing a T-shirt emblazoned with the Jaycee crest and enscribed with the words, "My Daddy is a Jaycee." One hour later, a downy-cheeked young fellow with glistening eyes was seen proudly wearing this same shirt throughout the hallowed corridors of Unit 11. Ah well, dear readers, 'tis said that in the Spring, a young man's fancy turns to thoughts of ????

As predicted, our ball hockey team, captained by Junior Marshall, emerged

victorious over Unit 10 (4 games to 1) to capture the trophy for our unit. Inspired by the brilliant scoring plays of Jerry Reid, the team of McLeod, Dowse, Langille, Savoie, Morrison, Goo-Goo and Toops gave their all to bring the trophy home.

Speaking of hockey -- a couple of fellows in the unit were wearing awfully long faces after the Stanley Cup games. Not to mention any names, but one of them is said to be the assistant captain of the ball hockey team and the other makes Santa Claus look like an undernourished midget. Now that you mention it, neither one of them has been around the canteen as much as they used to -- money kind of short, fellows?

Well, fellow brothers of the green cloth, the brain reservoir has been tapped for this issue. Before I go, I would like to draw your attention to the sign recently posted over the entrance of No. 3 building:

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SPORTS BRIEFS

by Vince Bezanson

The floor hockey season came to an exciting finale with No. 9 in first place, No. 11 in second place, No. 10 'Go Go Boys' in third place and in last place No. 8.

The semi-finals saw No. 9 play No. 8 and No. 11 take on No. 10 in a best of five series. No. 9 squeezed-out their series three games to one and then waiting to meet the winners of the No. 10-11 series for the championship.

No. 11 downed No. 10 three games straight, winning each game by a one goal margin. No. 10 sure missed Al Maillet in the playoffs. The defence of Barry McKee, Allen Saunders and Tom Carter did everything humanly possible to stop Billo (top scorer), Allen McLeod Junior Marshall and Jerry Reid (and I'm not forgetting the entire team). Randy Comeau came out of retirement -- played one game for No. 10, then went back into retirement -- keep up the good work as canteen man, Randy!

No. 9 and 11 faced-off for the championship. Both teams were up and ready to fly. The first game saw No. 9 pull through by a 9-8 score, with the winning goal going to Charlie Turner.

No. 9 made it two games straight by a score of 12-8. Outstanding goal tending from Pat Smith in that game helped No. 9 pull through. Young Smith showed some good moves in goal; in fact, better moves than an Egyptian belly-dancer. He stopped breakaways from Eddie Toppe, heavy shots from Parsons and foiled Allen McLeod's close in shots.

Game three was once again another victory for No. 9, by a 12-4 score. Junior Marshall (Captain) played his best game this season. He broke through the defence of Roger Parsons and Leonard Downey time and time again to set up plays but no one was there to finish the play. Marshall had the same misfortune that McLeod had in game two against Pat Smith.

No. 9 has a strong team, with quick shooters and their forwards drop back to help out the defence; it proved to be the difference in the championship. No. 11 goal tender, Gordie Goo Goo, in that third game gave it everything he had but No. 9 kept walking in to score.

Down three games to none and with all their steam gone, No. 11 conceded the fourth game and thus the championship. Wayne McGrath said that he could find no excuse for his team. The only way he felt they went wrong was after they beat No. 10 three games straight; their confidence was a bit too high and they were still tired from winning three hard fought games.

Charlie Turner said, "I said it before and I will say it again, and that's exactly what we did! They were tired but we played better hockey -- we were tired too. Pat Smith had a hard time in nets, maybe Goo Goo had a harder time but that's what the game is all about."

Well Charlie, that's three consecutive championships but next year there will be three units looking to knock you off. So maybe the pressure is off for this year but next year will be a brand new game.

A short ball hockey season followed floor hockey. First place after each team played fifteen games went to No. 10, 11 came in second, 9 came in third and No. 8 was in last place.

No. 10 picked up a gift as far as goal tending goes, from Manuel Lemoine; winning all fifteen games they played. Many of their wins should be credited to Lemoine's goal tending. Nigel Lemoine played strong defence in most games. Tony and Francis had a very good season.

No. 11 played stronger ball hockey than floor hockey. They got better performances from Langille and Henney. Jerry Reid played excellent hockey and Darrel Ripley was extremely dangerous around the net, scoring consistently.

No. 9 had a disappointing season; they were exceptionally lucky to finish in third spot. No. 8 surprised a lot of players; they got outstanding goal tending from Blondeau and Cruickshanks. The goal tenders were overworked due to a spotty defence.

In the playoffs No. 11 skunked 9, two straight in a best two out of three series. No. 10 squeezed by 8, two games to one; thus setting up the final between No. 11 and 10.

No. 11 jumped off to a two game

lead in the final (four out of seven). Goo Goo was tested in those two games by Saunders, Carter, St. Peter and Tony. In the third game No. 10 broke the jinx with a 5-3 victory. The fourth game saw No. 11 come back with a 7-5 win. Langille and Darrel Ripley played a strong game. Earl Waugh, the little rough winger, tied up Allen McLeod allowing him to score only one goal.

At the end of the second period of the fifth game the score was tied 4-4. Jerry Reid, Langille and Dowse made it 7-4 after only seven minutes of the third period. No. 10 made one final attempt when Pat Cunew beat Goo Goo from twenty feet out. Unpredictable Eldon St. Peter beat Goo Goo at point-blank range. McLeod and Reid ended the scoring for the season when they walked through a weak defence.

After the game the teams partook in the traditional handshaking and congrat-

ulated one another. Reid stated that with the transfers effecting No. 10, it had a lot to do with the outcome.

Throughout the entire hockey season each team lost players through transfers to the Farm Annex, paroles, etc. This was the case for No. 10, who lost five of their best players due to transfers.

My own views are: No. 10 has nothing to be ashamed of. Being second best is nothing to hold your head down about. MVP goes to Jerry Reid, who in addition to being an all-around player; is a sportsman as well.

An umpire's clinic was held in the gym and I would like to thank the staff for doing something early this year -- for a change. I wish the players would give the umpires in soft ball their respect as they did throughout the hockey season.

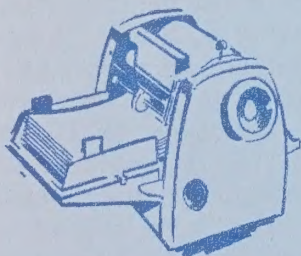
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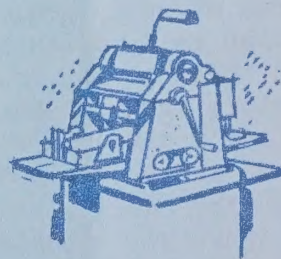
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